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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 10 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have been asked by my Government to inform you that, in a major escalation, Indian occupation forces used artillery in the Shahkot and Jura sectors of the line of control in the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir yesterday, 9 November 2016. This was the first use of such weapons in 13 years, and was a clear indication of the Indian intention to further escalate tensions and undermine regional peace and security. It seeks to divert international attention from its continued violations of human rights in Indian-occupied Kashmir.

The occupation forces have been engaged in unprovoked firing and ceasefire violations on both sides of the line of control and the working boundary. The frequency of these violations has increased over the last two months. Indiscriminate firing and shelling, deliberately targeting civilian-populated areas, have resulted in 26 civilian casualties and injury to another 107 civilians, including women and children, in the past two months.

Pakistan has condemned these continued ceasefire violations, which are a contravention of the 2003 ceasefire understanding, as well as of international law.

India has also continued its non-cooperative attitude and denial of access to the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), which has been mandated to maintain peace and tranquillity on the line of control and the working boundary. Pakistan, of course, fully cooperates and provides unhindered access to UNMOGIP on its side of the line of control and the working boundary.

As the custodian of international peace and security, we call upon the Security Council to take note of these continued ceasefire violations by India, as they present a real danger to regional peace and security.

It is requested that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council, in connection with the item entitled "The India-Pakistan question".

(*Signed*) Maleeha **Lodhi**

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